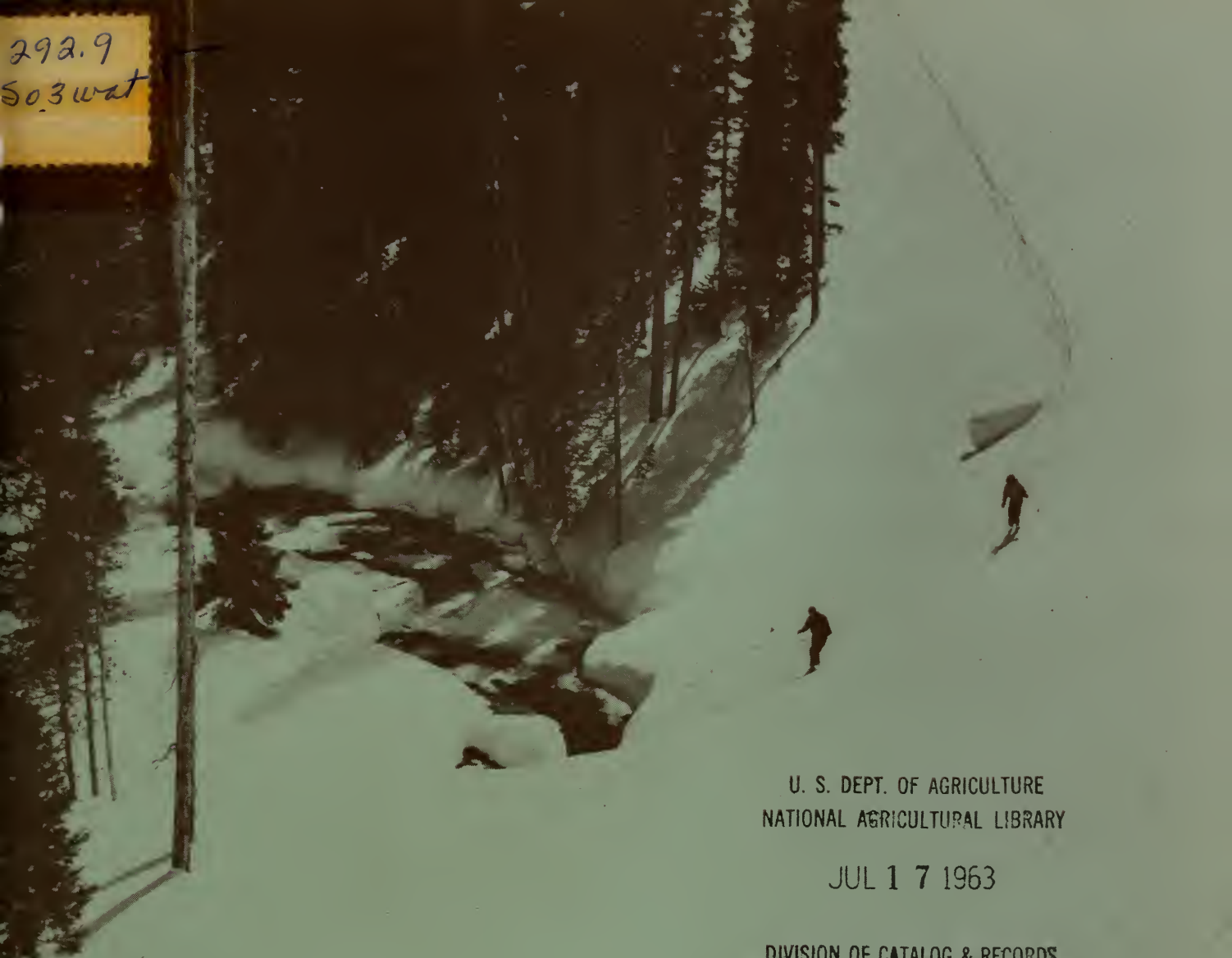


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JUL 17 1963

DIVISION OF CATALOG & RECORDS

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK
and
FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS
for
IDAHO

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE...SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE.
and
IDAHO STATE RECLAMATION ENGINEER

Data included in this report were obtained by the agency named above in cooperation with the Comptroller of Water Rights of British Columbia, and Federal, State and private organizations listed on the last page of this report.

||||||| AS OF |||||
MAR. 1, 1963

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

To Recipients of Water Supply Outlook Reports:

The climate of the cultivated and populated areas of the West is characterized by relatively dry summer months. Such precipitation as occurs falls mostly in the winter and early spring months when it is of little immediate benefit to growing crops. Most of this precipitation falls as mountain snow which stays on the ground for months, melting later to sustain streamflow during the period of greatest demand during late spring and summer. Thus, nature provides in mountain snow an imposing water storage facility.

The amount of water stored in mountain snow varies from place to place as well as from year to year and accordingly, so does the runoff of the streams. The best seasonal management of variable western water supplies results from advance estimates of the streamflow.

A snow survey consists of a series of about ten samples taken with specially designed snow sampling equipment along a permanently marked line, up to 1000 feet in length, called a snow course. The use of snow sampling equipment provides snow depth and water equivalent values for each sampling point. The average of these values is reported as the snow survey measurement for a snow course.

Snow surveys are made monthly or semi-monthly beginning in January or February and continue through the snow season until April, May or June. Currently more than 1400 western snow courses are measured each year. These measurements furnish the key data for water supply forecasts.

Streamflow forecasts are obtained by a comparison of total or maximum snow accumulation, as measured by snow water equivalent, to the subsequent spring and summer or snowmelt season runoff over a period of years. The snow water equivalent measured in selected snow courses provides most of the index to the streamflow forecast for the following season. More accurate forecasts are usually obtained when other factors such as soil moisture, base flow and spring precipitation are considered and included in the forecast procedure. Early season forecasts assume average climatic conditions through the snowmelt season.

Listed below are the Federal-State-Private Cooperative Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecast reports available for the West which contain detailed information on snow survey measurements, streamflow forecasts, reservoir storage, soil moisture and other guide data to water management and conservation decisions. Soil Conservation Service Reports may be secured from Water Supply Forecasting Unit, Soil Conservation Service, P.O. Box 4170, Portland 8, Oregon.

PUBLISHED BY SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

<u>REPORTS</u>	<u>ISSUED</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COOPERATING WITH</u>
RIVER BASINS			
WESTERN UNITED STATES	MONTHLY (FEB.-MAY)	PORTLAND, OREGON	ALL COOPERATORS
STATES			
ALASKA	MONTHLY (MAR.-MAY)	PALMER, ALASKA	ALASKA S.C.D.
ARIZONA	SEMI-MONTHLY (JAN.15 - APR.1)	PHOENIX, ARIZONA	SALT R. VALLEY WATER USERS ASSOC. ARIZ. AGR. EXP. STATION
COLORADO AND NEW MEXICO	MONTHLY (FEB.-MAY)	FORT COLLINS, COLORADO	COLO. STATE UNIVERSITY COLO. STATE ENGINEER N. MEX. STATE ENGINEER
IDAHO	MONTHLY (JAN.-JUNE)	BOISE, IDAHO	IDAHO STATE RECLAMATION ENGINEER
MONTANA	MONTHLY (JAN.-JUNE)	BOZEMAN, MONTANA	MONT. AGR. EXP. STATION
NEVADA	MONTHLY (JAN.-MAY)	RENO, NEVADA	NEVADA DEPT. OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES - DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES
OREGON	MONTHLY (JAN.-JUNE)	PORTLAND, OREGON	OREG. STATE UNIVERSITY OREGON STATE ENGINEER
UTAH	MONTHLY (JAN.-JUNE)	SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	UTAH STATE ENGINEER
WASHINGTON	MONTHLY (FEB.-JUNE)	SPOKANE, WASHINGTON	WN. STATE DEPT. OF CONSERVATION
WYOMING	MONTHLY (FEB.-JUNE)	CASPER, WYOMING	WYOMING STATE ENGINEER

PUBLISHED BY OTHER AGENCIES

<u>REPORTS</u>	<u>ISSUED</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>
BRITISH COLUMBIA	MONTHLY (FEB.-JUNE)	WATER RIGHTS BR., DEPT. OF LANDS, FORESTS AND NATURAL RESOURCES, PARLIAMENT BLDG., VICTORIA, B.C., CANADA
CALIFORNIA	MONTHLY (FEB.-MAY)	CALIF. DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES, P.O. BOX 388, SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK
and
FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS
for
IDAHO

Report prepared by

MORLAN W. NELSON Snow Survey Supervisor

and

J. ALDEN WILSON Asst. Snow Survey Supervisor

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
SNOW SURVEY SECTION
BOX 1247, BOISE, IDAHO

Issued by

LEE T. MORGAN
STATE CONSERVATIONIST
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
BOISE, IDAHO

GEORGE N. CARTER
STATE RECLAMATION ENGINEER
DEPARTMENT OF RECLAMATION
BOISE, IDAHO

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK for IDAHO



GENERAL SUMMARY - MARCH 1, 1963

The outlook for streamflow during the 1963 season is poor. Those rivers with adequate reservoir facilities and carry-over storage can make up for the low streamflow by drawing on stored water. The main stem of the Snake, Boise and Payette Rivers have excellent reserves of stored water. The smaller rivers throughout the whole southern half of Idaho, which do not have good storage facilities, are forecast to have critical water shortages for this season. There is a remote possibility that storms during March would change this outlook somewhat, and the April 1 snow measurements will represent the total snow pack for the year.

Snowfall during this season has been extremely light and spotted. There is an unusual elevation spread in snow cover. The high elevation snow courses have a better snow pack in relation to normal than the low and medium sites. As a result of the periods of warm temperatures during the winter, the low and middle elevation snow courses lost most of their snow cover and many throughout the state have the lightest ever recorded. In some cases, they are several inches of water lower than at any time during the period of record. The south slopes in general are either entirely bare of snow or have such a light cover that a few days of warm weather will melt it. The south slopes have been bare of snow practically all winter, resulting in the soil being unusually dry and able to absorb snow-melt and rainfall without a significant contribution to streamflow.

Soil moisture measurements made at forty-five sites, throughout the state, indicate an unusual pattern of soil moisture conditions. The high elevation

sites in general are unusually dry beneath the snow pack. At the low and middle sites, the soil was partially primed by rain and melting snow and then began to dry out. At this time these sites are below normal, but not as dry as the higher elevations. In many of our watersheds, soil moisture deficiencies are so great that the entire snow pack existing at this time can be absorbed by the soil. This situation increases the critical nature of the low water supply outlook in general for 1963.

Practically all of the small tributaries of the Snake River not having good storage facilities should prepare for critical water shortages. There are no more than two or three weeks remaining of this winter season in which to make a significant change in the water supply forecasts. Spring rains could eliminate one irrigation which would extend the water available for 1963. Soils in the valleys are dry and it will take more than average rainfall to eliminate one irrigation for this season.

Water users in general should make the most efficient use of their water even on rivers with good storage facilities because of the possibilities of a below normal water supply for 1964.

WHAT A FARM IRRIGATION SYSTEM MUST DO
by

Meador H. Wilkins, State Conservation Engineer
Soil Conservation Service

Farm irrigation systems must provide for the conveyance and distribution of water without damaging soil erosion. Unlined ditches must be located on non-erosive grades, or structures provided to control high velocities, such as drops and chutes. Lined ditches or pipelines should be used on steep slopes. Where lined ditches, flumes, chutes or pipelines carrying water at high velocities discharge into unlined ditches, stilling basins or other energy dissipators must be provided. Streams of water in corrugations and furrows must be adjustable so they will not cause erosion at any point in the run.

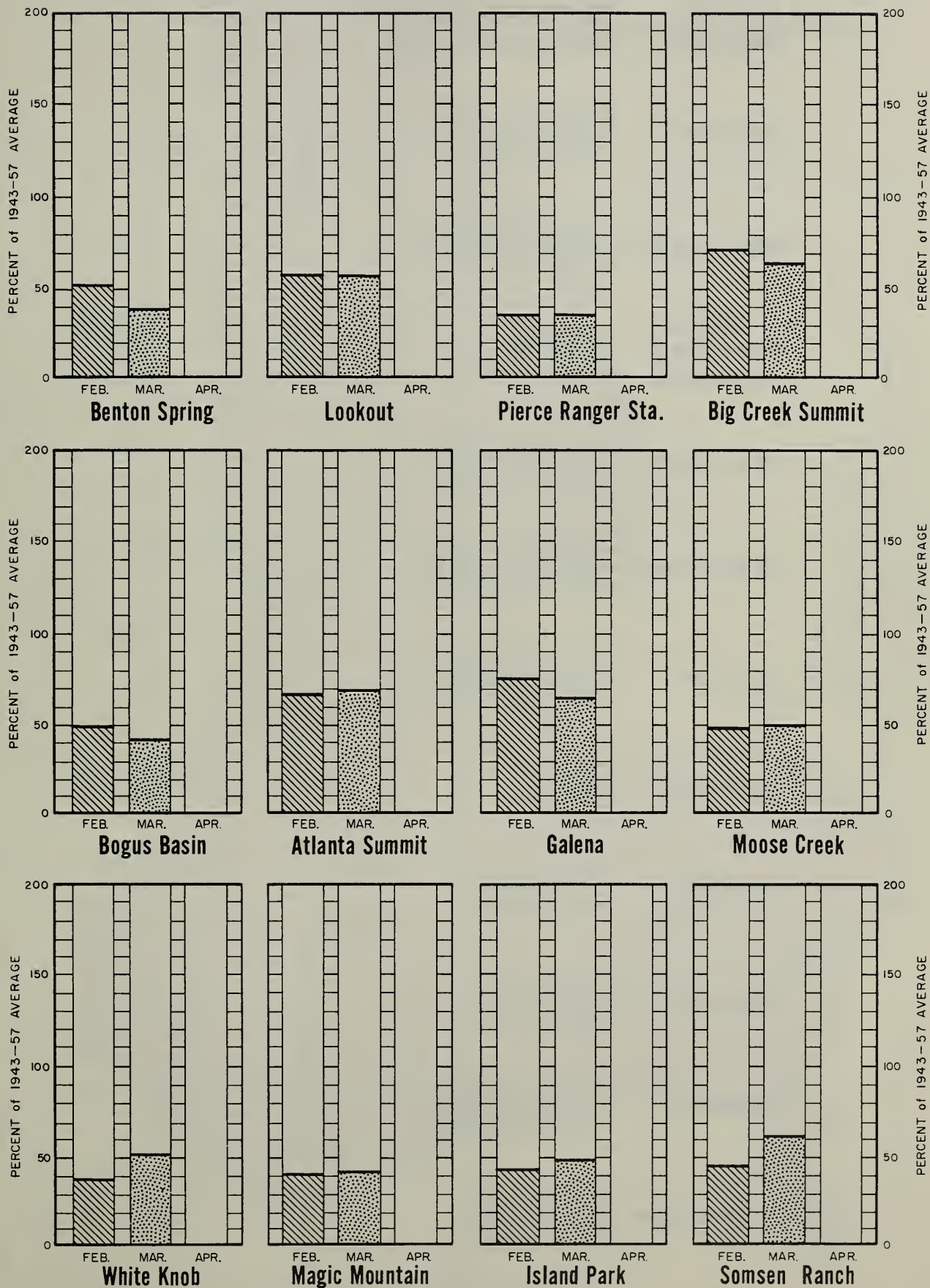
Farm irrigation systems must provide measuring devices, division structures, checks, turnouts, valves and gates needed to control and regulate the water for efficient application to meet soil and crop needs.

High water losses in transmission systems and low irrigation efficiencies waste water, require extra capacity to be built into the whole system, require more labor to handle the additional water, leaches fertilizer and other nutrients from the soil, and contributes to drainage problems.

SNOW WATER DEPTHS ACCUMULATION

For Selected Snow Courses
As Compared To 1943-57 15Yr. Average

MARCH 1, 1963



SNOW WATER DEPTHS

BY DRAINAGE

Compared To The 1943 - 57 15 Yr. Average

Snow Cover as of Approximately

MARCH 1, 1963

Kootenai R.
U. S. and Canada

Pend Oreille
Clark Fork R.

Spokane River

Upper Snake River

Raft River
Salmon Falls Cr.
Bruneau River

Big Lost River

Big Wood River

Boise River

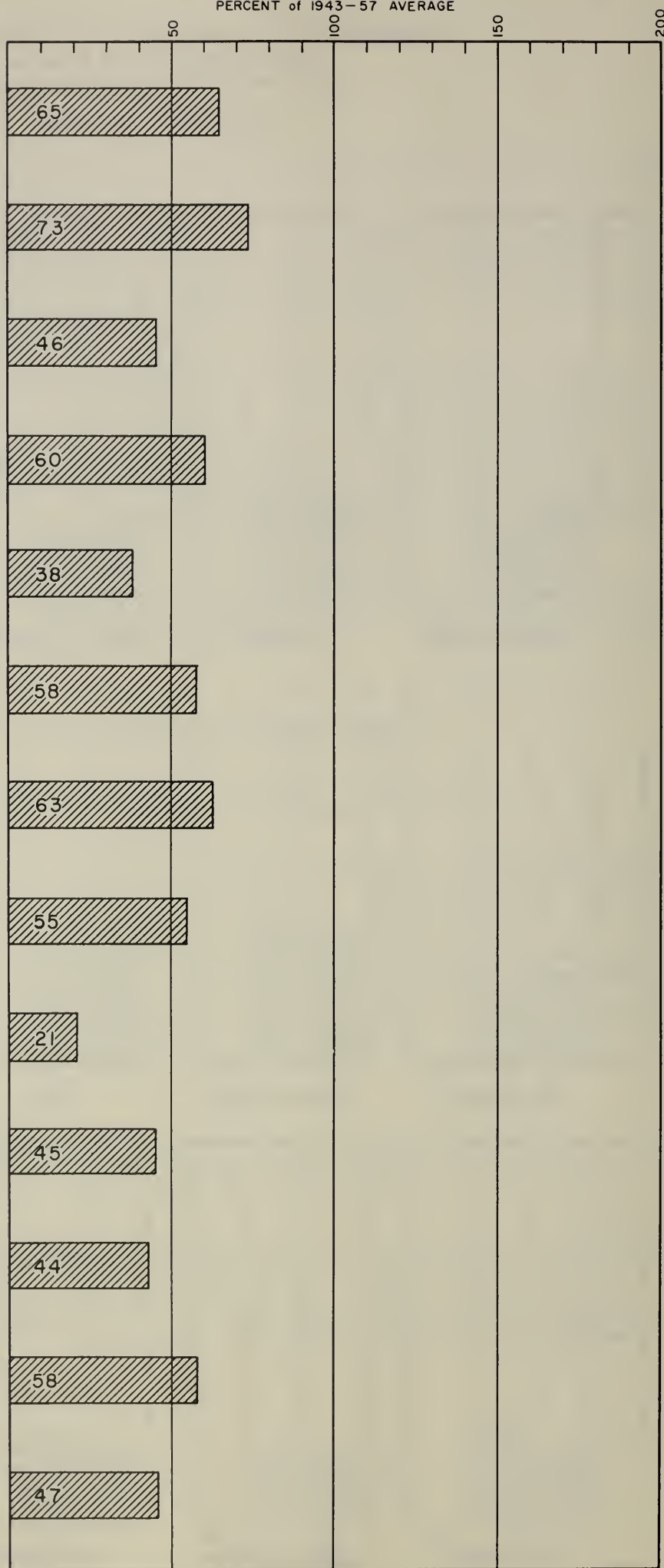
Owyhee River

Payette River

Weiser River

Salmon River

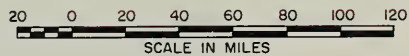
Clearwater River



SNOW WATER DEPTHS

As percent of 1943-57 15 year average

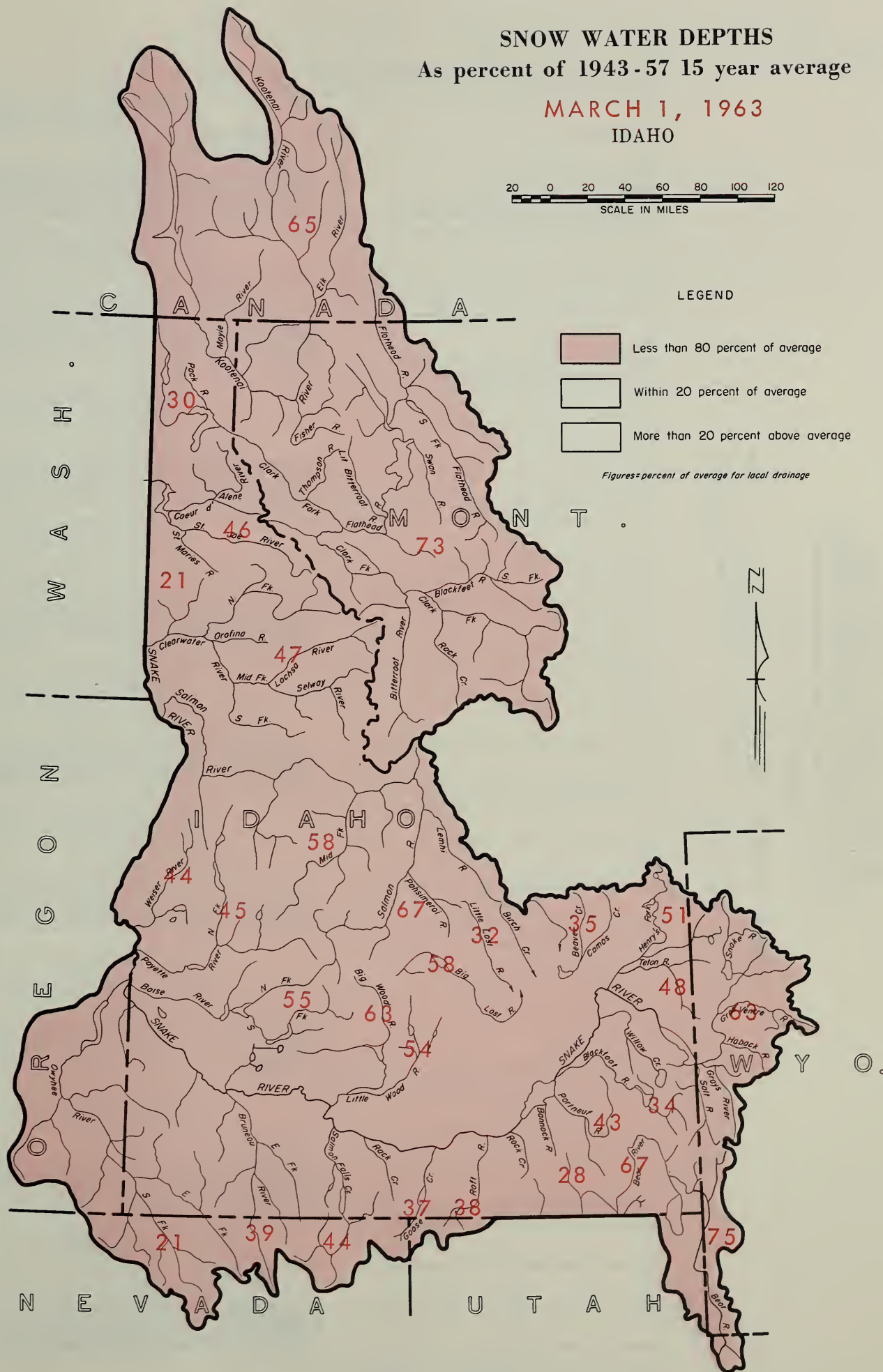
MARCH 1, 1963
IDAHO



LEGEND

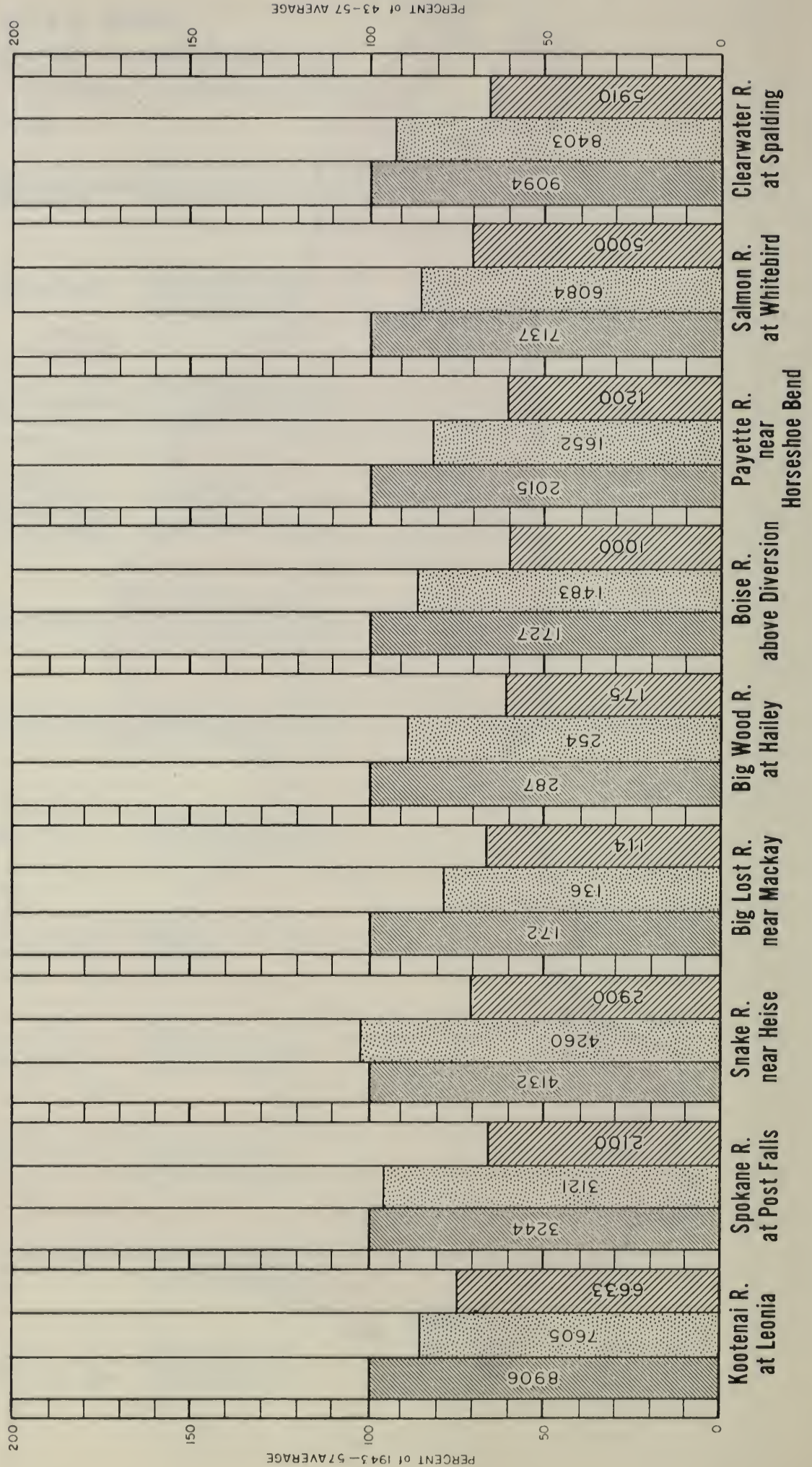
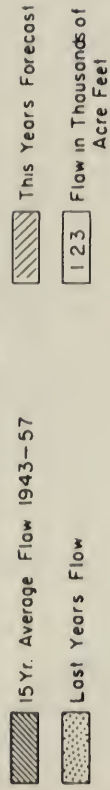
- Less than 80 percent of average
- Within 20 percent of average
- More than 20 percent above average

Figures=percent of average for local drainage



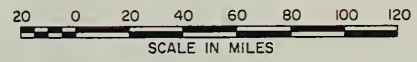
WATER SUPPLY FORECASTS APRIL THROUGH SEPTEMBER PERIOD Based on Snow Surveys made on approximately

MARCH 1, 1963

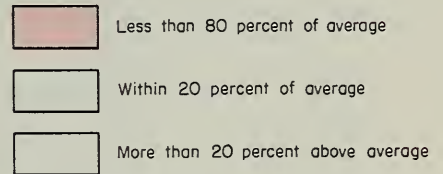


PROSPECTIVE WATER SUPPLIES

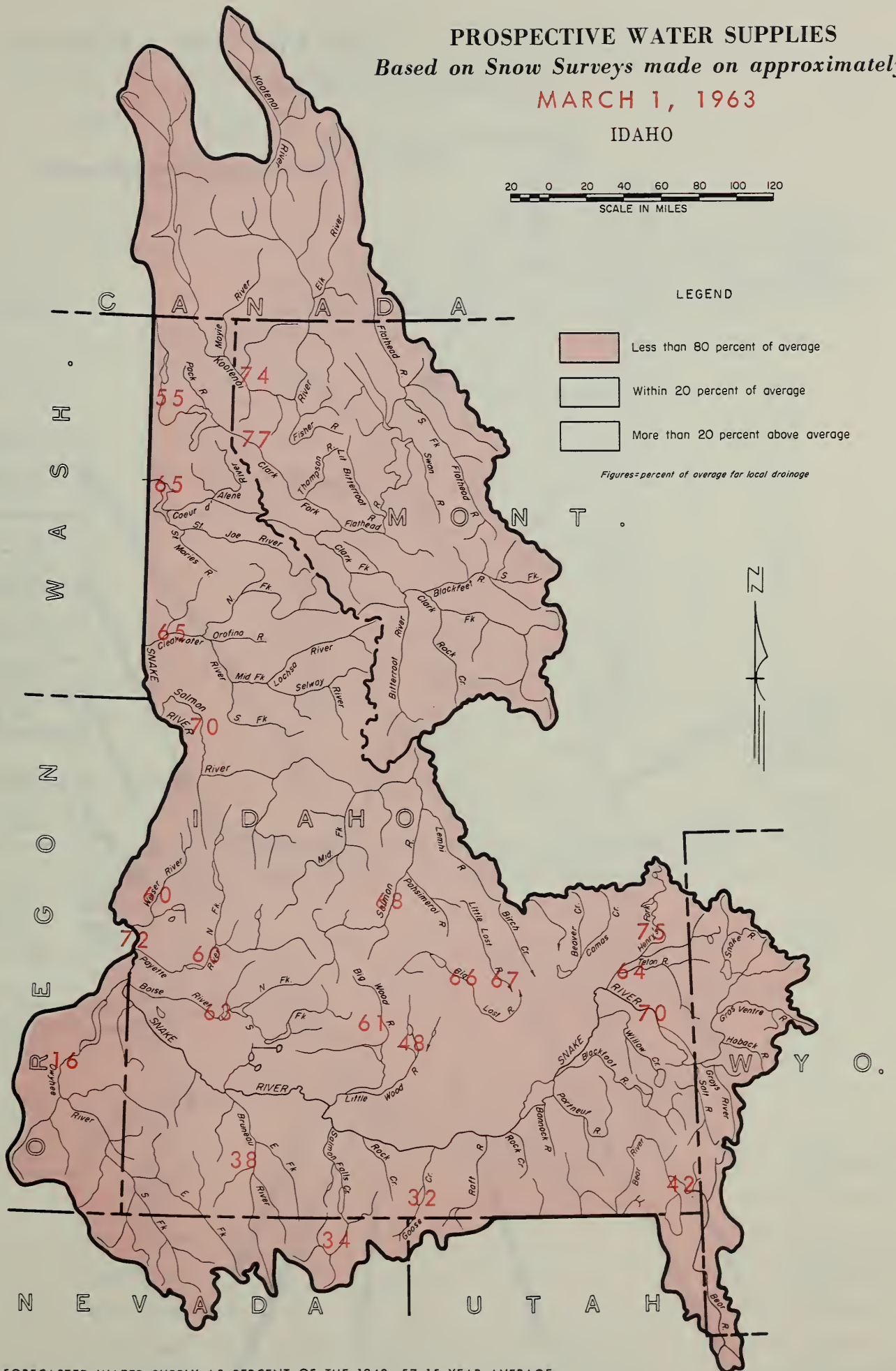
Based on Snow Surveys made on approximately
MARCH 1, 1963
 IDAHO



LEGEND



Figures=percent of average for local drainage



FORECASTED WATER SUPPLY AS PERCENT OF THE 1943-57 15 YEAR AVERAGE

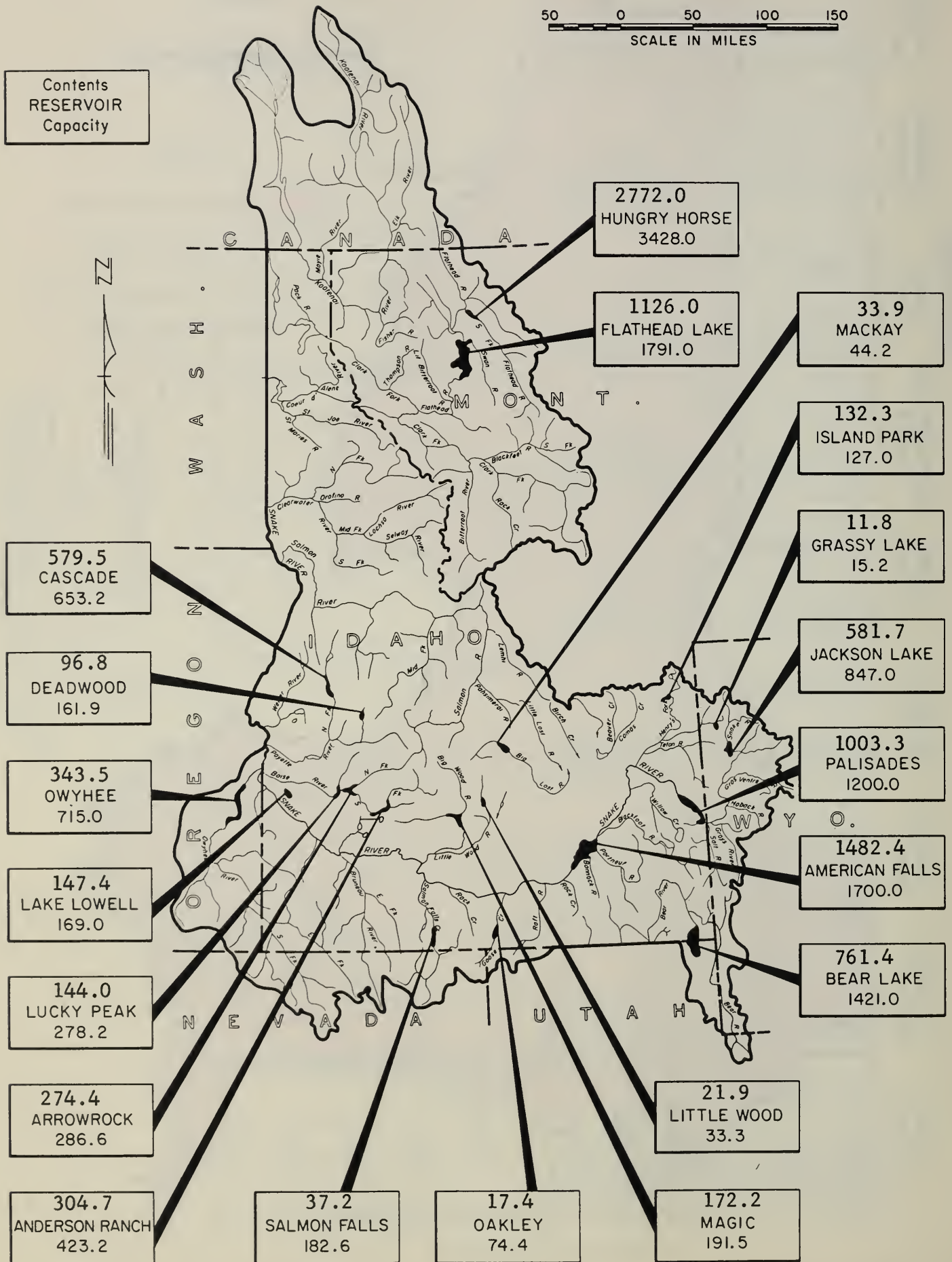
RESERVOIR STORAGE

USABLE CONTENTS (1,000 Acre Feet)

MARCH 1, 1963

50 0 50 100 150
SCALE IN MILES

Contents
RESERVOIR
Capacity



VALLEY PRECIPITATION 1/

Division Averages and Departures
In Inches

DRAINAGE DIVISIONS	Fall		Winter	
	Sep.-Oct.-Nov. 1962		Dec. 1962 - Feb. 1963	
	Average <u>2/</u>	Departure <u>3/</u>	Average <u>2/</u>	Departure <u>3/</u>
Kootenai	1.87	-0.62	6.48	-2.33
Flathead	2.01	+0.23	5.86	-0.31
Clark Fork	0.74	+0.04	2.69	+0.03
Pend Oreille-Spokane	4.12	+0.84	8.97	-2.51
Upper Snake	2.26	+0.28	5.07	-1.67
Snake River Plain	0.94	+0.21	2.49	-0.24
Salmon-Payette-Boise	2.29	+0.08	5.06	-2.49
Clearwater	2.31	-0.12	6.76	-1.57
Southeastern Oregon	0.98	+0.07	2.68	-0.78

1/ Preliminary analysis by U. S. Weather Bureau from data furnished by Meterological Service of Canada and U. S. Weather Bureau.

2/ 15-year (1943-1957) division average.

3/ Departure from 15-year (1943-57) drainage division average.

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK and SNOW SURVEYS KOOTENAI, PEND OREILLE, SPOKANE, PALOUSE, CLEARWATER, SALMON WATERSHEDS IDAHO

as of

MARCH 1, 1963

GENERAL SUMMARY

The water supply outlook for this area is well below normal. Conditions are spotted but, in general, indicate unusually low streamflow for the 1963 season.

Snow cover varies from 21 per cent of normal on the Palouse River to 73 per cent on the Pend Oreille-Clark Fork. Several rivers have the lightest snow pack recorded to date. This situation is further complicated by the fact that the low and medium elevations in the mountains have the lightest readings. The south slopes are bare of snow up to high elevations. The pattern of snow cover for this season indicates streamflow will be lower than would be expected from similar measurements when the high and low elevation snow cover are in the normal relationship.

Soil moisture conditions beneath the snow pack are close to average. This month the temperatures came up to near average for this time of the year. Air temperatures during the month were unusually warm which melted the low elevation snow and increased soil temperatures.

Streamflow during the month was unusually high as a result of the snow-melt which occurred. The large reservoirs reflect the good winter runoff and carry-over from the 1962 season.

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK expressed as "Poor", "Fair", "Average" or "Excellent" and STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (1,000 Ac. Ft.) ^a

STREAM and/or FORECAST POINT	OUTLOOK	FORECAST THIS YEAR	FORECAST PERIOD	1943-57 AVERAGE	THIS YEAR AS PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Kootenai River at Leonia		6633	Apr-Sep	8907	74
		4630	Apr-Jun	6257	74
Clark Fork at Whitehorse Rapids ^c		10792	Apr-Sep	13932	77
		9828	Apr-Jul	12763	77
		8328	Apr-Jun	10816	77
Priest River nr. Priest River ^d		500	Apr-Jul	904	55
Spokane River at Post Falls ^e		2100	Apr-Sep	3242	65
Coeur d'Alene River nr. Cataldo		860	Apr-Sep	1322	65
		835	Apr-Jul	1263	66
St. Joe River at Calder		905	Apr-Sep	1391	65
		875	Apr-Jul	1323	65
Clearwater River at Spalding		5910	Apr-Sep	9094	65
at Kamiah		3325	Apr-Sep	5116	65
		3235	Apr-Jul	4901	66
North Fork nr. Ahsahka		2140	Apr-Sep	3289	65
		2035	Apr-Jul	3086	66
Salmon River at Whitebird		5000	Apr-Sep	7137	70
nr. Challis		650	Apr-Sep	959	68
		585	Apr-Jul	839	70

Report Prepared by

M. W. NELSON AND J. ALDEN WILSON

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE --- SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

P.O. BOX 1247, BOISE, IDAHO

HISTORICAL DATA (Kootenai River) Data obtained from U.S. Geological Survey records.

YEAR	SEASONAL VOLUMES at LEONIA STREAMFLOW (1,000 Acre-Ft.)			RIVER FLOOD STAGES			
				LEONIA		BONNERS FERRY	
	APR. - SEPT.	APR. JUNE	MAY - JUNE	GAGE HEIGHT	PEAK C.F.S.	MAX. DISCH. C.F.S.	GAGE HEIGHT
1943	9,255	6,191	4,333	114.12	58,000	65,000	24.99
1944	4,136	2,818	2,505	108.55	30,000	31,100	14.02
1945	6,050	4,060	3,802	114.07	57,700	61,300	24.04
1946	9,510	6,903	5,834	116.65	80,500	77,000	30.41
1947	9,100	6,823	5,629	117.31	88,200	82,500	31.31
1948	11,073	8,440	7,508	123.15	139,000	123,000	35.32
1949	6,899	5,366	4,316	116.68	81,700	75,200	30.84
1950	9,965	6,677	5,890	118.21	90,100	87,100	33.98
1951	10,807	7,101	6,001	117.04	76,300	83,800	31.86
1952	8,454	6,096	4,659	114.87	63,000	69,700	26.30
1953	8,402	5,600	5,024	116.51	74,700	76,700	30.21
1954	12,213	7,583	6,878	120.81	104,000	132,000	35.55
1955	8,444	5,377	4,996	117.30	79,300	86,200	31.80
1956	11,494	8,755	7,308	121.65	115,000	127,000	37.09
1957	9,798	6,074	5,468	115.93	71,000	78,300	28.81

COMPARISON of SNOW COVER

RIVER BASIN WATERSHED	NO. OF COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEARS SNOW WATER EXPRESSED AS PERCENT OF :	
		LAST YEAR	AVERAGE ^b
Kootenai-Canada & U.S.	12	76	65
Pend Oreille-Clark Fork	37	74	73
Priest River	2	35	30
Spokane River	3	48	46
Palouse River	1	22	21
Clearwater River	6	49	47
Salmon River	10	60	58

RESERVOIR STORAGE (1,000 Ac. Ft.)

RESERVOIR	USABLE CAPACITY	MEASURED (First of Month)		
		THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	1943-57 AVERAGE
Hungry Horse	3428.0	2772.0	2172.0	2369.0
Flathead	1791.0	1126.0	806.5	768.2
Pend Oreille	1561.0	1070.0	842.1	--
Coeur d'Alene	238.5	172.3	104.9	--

SOIL MOISTURE

STATION		PROFILE (Inches)		SOIL MOISTURE (Inches)			
		DEPTH	CAPACITY	DATE	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	2 YEARS AGO
NAME	ELEVATION						
Benton Spring	4900	48	14.4	2/27	9.8	9.1	10.0
Brown	3100	36	6.7	2/26	4.3	4.2*	--
Fohl	3450	48	13.3	2/26	9.8	8.0*	--
Fourth of July Summit	3100	48	11.6	2/28	6.9	--	--
Lookout	5250	48	11.0	2/28	6.1	--	--
Midway	2200	36	6.1	2/26	4.0	3.7*	--

* Spring Measurements.

SNOW

SNOW COURSE		CURRENT INFORMATION			PAST RECORD	
		DATE OF SURVEY	SNOW DEPTH (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	
NAME	ELEVATION				LAST YEAR	1943-57 AVERAGE
Above Gilmore	8200	2/28	25	6.2	8.2	--
Above Greer	1240	2/26	0	0.0	0.0	--
Benton Meadow	2344	2/27	1	0.4	6.5	6.5
Benton Spring	4900	2/27	24	7.8	17.2	20.4
Big Creek Summit	6608	2/27	60	20.3	30.5	31.7*
Boulder Creek	5500	2/27	31	10.0	21.7	21.4*
Cayuse Airstrip	3700	2/25	11	4.6	12.4	11.9*
Chapman Creek	4220	2/28	0	0.0	2.3	2.3*
Copes Camp	7500	3/1	26	5.0	7.2	--
Copper Ridge	4800	3/1	36	10.4	26.8	27.2

(*) Estimated 1943-57 average. (**) Average for period of record. (▲) Affected by dike breakage downstream. (o) Forecasts made by P. E. Farnes, SCS, Bozeman, Montana. () Aerial observation, water content estimated. (a) Assuming normal meteorological conditions. (b) Actual or estimated 1943-57 average. (c) Observed flow corrected for storage in Flathead Lake and Hungry Horse. (d) Observed flow corrected for storage in Priest Lake. (e) Observed flow corrected for storage in Coeur d'Alene Lake and diversions by Spokane Valley Farms Company and Rathdrum Prairie Canals.

A horizontal scale bar with markings at 25, 0, 25, 50, 75, and 100. The text "SCALE IN MILES" is centered below the bar.



SNOW

SNOW COURSE		CURRENT INFORMATION			PAST RECORD	
		DATE OF SURVEY	SNOW DEPTH (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	
NAME	ELEVATION				LAST YEAR	1943-57 AVERAGE
Crater Meadows	6100	2/28	69	22.7	--	--
Crumarine Creek	3500	2/28	0	0.0	--	6.7*
Deadwood Summit	7000	2/27	77	25.8	40.6	42.1*
East Twin	4000	2/28	0	0.0	12.3	11.4*
Elk Butte	5550	2/27	41	13.3	--	--
Fish Lake Airstrip	5000	2/27	65	21.2	38.9	39.5*
Forest	4550	2/26	0	0.0	8.4	--
Forty-nine Meadows	5000	2/27	41	12.9	27.3	33.3*
Fourth of July Summit	3100	2/28	T	T	9.8	--
Galena Summit	8795	2/28	51	14.9	19.2	20.3*
Gertson Creek +	8050	3/2	10	2.0	9.1	--
Greer Summit	3000	2/26	0	0.0	0.0	--
Hemlock Butte	5500	2/25	68	26.0	46.8	--
Howard Creek	3500	2/28	0	0.0	2.0	3.3*
Johns Creek	3810	2/28	0	0.0	1.2	2.8*
Kellogg Peak +	5560	2/25	24	7.7	--	--
Lolo Pass	5230	2/25	49	17.5	34.4	32.9*
Lookout	5250	2/28	60	19.3	31.4	33.7*
Lower Sands Creek	3400	3/1	24	7.0	18.6	18.5*
McCann	4300	2/26	0	0.0	10.2	--
Meadow Lake	9100	2/28	39	10.8	16.3	--
Midway	2200	2/26	0	0.0	0.0	--
Mill Creek Summit	8870	3/3	52	13.6	19.0	--
Moose Creek	6200	2/27	36	8.0	12.6	16.1
Moscow Mountain	4800	2/28	14	3.5	15.9	16.6*
Mosquito Ridge +	5110	2/25	61	19.6	31.6	--
Nez Perce Pass	6575	2/28	33	9.0	9.3	16.8*
Outlaw Creek	3750	2/27	18	4.9	14.4	--
Pahsimeroi +	7600	3/1	0	0.0	--	--
Pierce Rgr. Sta.	3171	2/25	11	4.0	11.0	11.0*
Powell Rgr. Sta.	4230	2/25	21	7.3	13.7	14.6*
Rock Flat Summit	5200	2/26	20	6.6	17.6	17.1*
Roland Summit +	5200	2/25	43	13.8	--	--
Savage Pass	6600	2/25	52	18.6	24.2	--
Schwartz Lake	8500	3/1	35	8.4	10.9	--
Shanghai Summit	4600	3/1	27	8.9	--	--
Sherwin	3200	3/1	15	3.7	17.2	--
Squaw Meadow +	5800	2/27	44	14.9	40.6	34.2*
Sunset +	5600	2/25	56	18.0	--	--
Sweeney	4435	2/26	0	0.0	7.4	--
Twin Peaks +	9190	3/1	45	11.8	--	--
Vienna Mine +	8900	2/25	69	20.1	29.9	31.4*
West Twin	4200	2/28	0	0.0	9.8	10.7*
Whitebird Summit	4400	2/28	1	0.4	10.6	4.8*
Williams Creek Summit	7800	3/2	34	7.9	11.6	12.0*

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK and SNOW SURVEYS. BOISE, PAYETTE, WEISER, BRUNEAU, OWYHEE WATERSHEDS IDAHO

as of

MARCH 1, 1963

GENERAL SUMMARY

The water supply outlook for this area varies from poor to near normal by drawing on stored water. The Boise and Payette Rivers have excellent storage carry-over which can make up for practically all of the deficiency forecast in streamflow for 1963. Those water rights controlled by the actual flow of the river can expect an unusually early drop in the flow of the river especially if March snowfall continues below average.

The snow pack varies from 21% of normal on the Owyhee River to 55% on the Boise. In many cases, the low and medium elevation snow courses in the mountains have the lightest snow pack ever recorded. Higher elevation snow courses, such as Trinity and Deadwood Summit, however, have a relatively heavier snow cover for this season. The south slopes in general are bare to elevations exceeding 9,000 feet.

Soil moisture conditions beneath the snow pack are generally dry. There was a slight increase in the lower and middle elevation soil moisture sites as a result of snow-melt, but no significant change has taken place.

Reservoir storage on the Boise and Payette Rivers is well above normal. Owyhee Reservoir is below normal but had an excellent increase during February and, even with the extremely low forecasted inflow, should be able to deliver close to normal irrigation water supplies.

Water in general should be used very conservatively to make possible the greatest amount of carry-over for 1964.

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK expressed as "Poor", "Fair", "Average" or "Excellent" and STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (1,000 Ac. Ft.) ^a

STREAM and/or FORECAST POINT	OUTLOOK	FORECAST THIS YEAR	FORECAST PERIOD	1943-57 AVERAGE	THIS YEAR AS PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Boise River nr. Twin Springs		500	Apr-Sep	791	63
		465	Apr-Jul	737	63
nr. Boise		1000	Apr-Sep	1704	59
South Fork at Anderson Dam		380	Apr-Sep	646	59
Payette River nr. Horseshoe Bend		1200	Apr-Sep	2016	60
North Fork at Cascade		400	Apr-Sep	618	65
nr. Banks		490	Apr-Sep	793	62
		475	Apr-Jul	765	62
South Fork nr. Banks		640	Apr-Jul	1077	59
Weiser River ab. Crane Creek		345	Mar-Sep	575	60
Bruneau River nr. Hot Springs		90	Mar-Sep	235**	38
Lake Owyhee net Inflow		70	Apr-Sep	430	16
		100	Mar-Jul	524	19
Snake River at Weiser		5600	Apr-Sep	7725	72

COMPARISON of SNOW COVER

RIVER BASIN WATERSHED	NO. OF COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEARS SNOW WATER EXPRESSED AS PERCENT OF :	
		LAST YEAR	AVERAGE ^b
Boise	12	60	55
Payette	9-13	47	45
Weiser	3-5	55	44
Bruneau	8	34	39
Owyhee	13-16	22	21

RESERVOIR STORAGE (1,000 Ac. Ft.)

RESERVOIR	USABLE CAPACITY	MEASURED (First of Month)		
		THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	1943-57 AVERAGE
Anderson	423.2	304.7	38.3	183.2
Arrowrock	286.6	274.4	245.6	196.8
Lucky Peak	278.2	144.0	35.5	--
Lake Lowell	169.0	147.4	120.4	110.2
Cascade	653.2	579.5	153.8	207.6
Deadwood	161.9	96.8	57.4	83.3
Owyhee	715.0	343.5	168.5	473.1

Report Prepared by

M. W. NELSON AND J. ALDEN WILSON

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE --- SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

P.O. BOX 1247, BOISE, IDAHO

SOIL MOISTURE

STATION		PROFILE (Inches)		SOIL MOISTURE (Inches)			
		DEPTH	CAPACITY	DATE	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	2 YEARS AGO
NAME	ELEVATION						
Bad Bear	5500	60	6.3	3/3	4.4	--	--
Bogus Basin	6120	48	13.1	3/1	8.5	6.6	7.2
Bogus Basin Road	4830	48	7.1	3/1	5.7	6.0	5.7
Moore's Creek Summit	6100	60	8.8	3/3	6.1	--	--
Mud Flat	5500	48	12.8	2/28	10.0	8.0	7.1
Triangle	5150	60	16.2	2/28	12.6	--	--

SNOW

SNOW COURSE		CURRENT INFORMATION			PAST RECORD	
		DATE OF SURVEY	SNOW DEPTH (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	
NAME	ELEVATION				LAST YEAR	1943-57 AVERAGE
Antelope Ridge	5900	2/28	0	0.0	1.1	--
Atlanta Summit +	7500	2/28	64	22.0	30.3	31.9*
Bad Bear	5500	3/3	0	0.0	13.4	--
Battle Creek +	5700	3/4	0	0.0	1.2	--
Bear Creek Nev.	7800	2/27	39	9.4	20.2	17.1*
Bennett Mountain	6650	2/28	21	7.2	15.8	--
Big Bend Nev.	6700	2/25	2	0.6	9.1	8.9
Big Creek Summit	6608	2/27	60	20.3	30.5	31.7*
Bogus Basin	6120	3/1	26	9.0	21.2	21.8*
Bogus Basin Road	5360	3/1	0	0.0	2.7	6.7*
Boulder Creek	5500	2/27	31	10.0	21.7	21.4*
Bull Basin +	5600	3/4	1	0.2	1.0	--
Camas Creeks Divide +	5720	3/3	T	T	8.3	--
Couch Summit	7000	3/5	29	8.5	18.9	18.1*
Cozy Cove	5900	2/25	12	4.3	14.9	16.3*
Crawford Rgr. Sta.	4800	3/1	0	0.0	7.8	7.4*
Danskin +	5650	3/3	.4	1.2	11.2	--
Deadwood Airstrip	5440	2/25	8	3.6	15.1	--
Deadwood Dam	5290	2/25	14	5.0	15.7	16.4*
Deadwood Summit	7000	2/27	77	25.8	40.6	42.1*
Dixie Hill	5230	2/28	0	0.0	6.4	--
Dollarhide Summit +	8700	2/25	52	17.8	26.1	23.8*
Fox Creek Nev.	6800	2/27	7	2.0	8.8	8.4*
Fry Canyon Nev.	6700	2/25	0	0.0	6.1	8.2
Galena	7500	2/28	41	11.4	16.7	17.6*
Galena Summit	8795	2/28	51	14.9	19.2	20.3*
Goat Creek + Nev.	8800	2/25	34	10.1	20.7	15.7*
Gold Creek Nev.	6600	2/25	0	0.0	4.8	6.3*
Greenfield Flat +	7370	3/3	85	28.7	34.0	--
High Valley Summit	5170	3/1	8	2.3	10.5	--
Hummingbird Springs + Nev.	8945	2/25	38	9.2	24.7	18.3*
Hyde Pasture +	5800	3/4	0	0.0	1.8	--
Jacks Peak Nev.	8420	2/26	38	10.1	25.5	18.8*
Jackson Peak +	7000	2/27	51	17.5	--	30.6*
Lake Fork	6000	2/26	19	5.5	15.5	15.8*
Little Camas Flat +	4950	3/3	0	0.0	4.0	--
Long Tom +	4550	3/3	0	0.0	0.9	--
Lower Jack Creek	6800	2/26	2	0.4	2.5	3.2
Mica Ridge +	6800	3/3	45	15.2	--	--
Moore's Creek Summit	6100	3/3	37	12.7	25.4	30.4
Mount Baldy	9000	3/1	40	10.6	18.4	18.2*
Mud Flat	5500	2/28	0	0.0	2.4	--
Placer Creek	6000	2/27	22	7.1	13.8	15.4*
Pole Creek Rgr. Sta. Nev.	8330	2/26	36	8.7	18.6	16.0*
Prairie	5600	2/28	0	0.0	4.2	6.5*
Red Canyon +	6650	3/4	3	0.6	3.2	--
Red Point + Nev.	7940	2/25	6	1.5	10.5	--

*Estimated 1943-57 average. (o) Forecast made by W. T. Frost, S.G.S., Portland, Oregon. (+) Aerial observation, water content estimated. (a) Assuming normal meteorological conditions. (b) Actual or estimated 1943-57 average. (c) Observed flow corrected for storage in Arrowrock, Anderson Ranch and Lucky Peak. (d) Observed flow corrected for change of storage in Anderson Ranch Reservoir. (e) Observed flow corrected for change of storage in Cascade & Deadwood Reservoirs. (f) Observed flow corrected for change of storage in Cascade Reservoir. (g) Observed flow corrected for change of storage in Deadwood Reservoir. (h) Observed flow of Weiser River nr. Weiser minus the observed flow of Crane Creek at mouth. (i) From U.S.B.R. records of inflow. (**) 1944-1957 average.

BOISE, PAYETTE, WEISER, BRUNEAU, OWYHEE WATERSHEDS

LEGEND

- Watershed Boundary
- Sail Conservation District Bdry.
- County Boundary
- ▲ Forecast Point
- Snow Course
- † Aerial Snow Depth Gage
- ▴ Sail Moisture Station



WATERSHED LOCATIONS



SNOW

SNOW COURSE		CURRENT INFORMATION			PAST RECORD	
		DATE OF SURVEY	SNOW DEPTH (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	
NAME	ELEVATION				LAST YEAR	1943-57 AVERAGE
Road Creek +	6800	2/27	6	2.1	8.6	11.6*
Rock Flat Summit	5200	2/26	20	6.6	17.6	17.1*
Rodeo Flat Nev.	6800	2/25	T	T	4.8	8.2
Seventy-six Creek + Nev.	7100	2/25	T	T	10.4	12.8*
Silver City	6400	2/28	5	1.4	13.9	14.8*
Soldier Rgr. Sta.	6100	2/28	14	5.2	11.5	12.3*
South Mountain	6340	2/27	7	1.6	8.2	11.4
Squaw Flat +	6230	3/3	27	9.1	24.4	--
Squaw Meadow +	5800	2/27	44	14.9	40.6	34.2*
Succor Creek +	6100	3/4	2	0.4	4.0	--
Taylor Canyon Nev.	6200	2/26	0	0.0	2.6	5.0
Triangle +	5150	2/28	0	0.0	0.1	--
Trinity Mountain	7400	2/27	69	26.4	37.1	40.3*
Tripod Summit	5200	3/1	16	5.2	15.6	--
Upper Jack Creek Nev.	7250	2/26	7	2.9	10.0	9.7*
Vienna Mine +	8900	2/25	69	20.1	29.9	31.4*
Willow Creek Cabin +	4710	3/3	0	0.0	0.6	--

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK and SNOW SURVEYS

SNAKE, BIG WOOD, LITTLE WOOD, RAFT, GOOSE CREEK, SALMON FALLS CREEK WATERSHEDS

IDAHO

as of

MARCH 1, 1963

GENERAL SUMMARY

The water supply outlook for all rivers in this area is poor. Reservoir hold-over on the main stem of the Snake, and some other large rivers, is excellent and can make up for the forecasted deficiencies in streamflow. The smaller streams, with little or no storage facilities, face the possibility of serious water shortages in 1963.

Snow cover varies from 37% of normal on Goose Creek to 63% on the Big Wood River. The low elevation snow cover is almost entirely gone and south slopes are bare at elevations up to as high as 9,000 feet. Snowfall during the month of February was not up to normal, and temperatures during the month were extremely warm.

Soil moisture in general is well below normal throughout the entire area. Soil temperatures returned to average conditions during the month. The dry conditions beneath the snow pack is expected to absorb an unusually heavy amount of snow-melt during the 1963 season, thus reducing the runoff forecast from the snow pack.

Reservoir-stored water in general is slightly to well above normal. The good carry-over storage on the bigger rivers will be an important factor in averting deficiencies during the 1963 season. In some cases, however, the reservoirs are too small to carry sufficient water for the entire season and shortages may result.

Water in general should be used very conservatively to make possible the greatest amount of carry-over for 1964.

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK expressed as "Poor", "Fair", "Average" or "Excellent" and STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (1,000 Ac. Ft.) ^a

STREAM and/or FORECAST POINT	OUTLOOK	FORECAST THIS YEAR	FORECAST PERIOD	1943-57 AVERAGE	THIS YEAR AS PERCENT OF AVERAGE
SNAKE River nr. Heise		2900	Apr-Sep	4132	70
nr. Blackfoot		2970	Apr-Jul	4239	70
BIG WOOD River at Hailey		175	Apr-Sep	287	61
(corrected for Diversions)		210	Apr-Sep	340	62
BIG WOOD nr. Bellevue		95	Mar-Jul	174*	55
(corrected for Diversions)		190	Mar-Jul	315*	60
Camas Creek nr. Blaine		60	Mar-Jul	135*	45
Magic Reservoir Inflow		160	Mar-Jul	309*	52
LITTLE WOOD River ab. High Five Creek		42	Apr-Sep	87.5*	48
GOOSE-TRAPPER Creeks inflow to Oakley Res.		11	Mar-Sep	34.0*	32
SALMON FALLS Creek nr. San Jacinto		30	Mar-Sep	87.7	34
		29	Mar-Jul	85.0	34
Cedar Creek Inflow		3	Mar-Sep	--	--

Report Prepared by

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE --- SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

P. O. BOX 1247, BOISE, IDAHO

COMPARISON of SNOW COVER

RIVER BASIN WATERSHED	NO. OF COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEARS SNOW WATER EXPRESSED AS PERCENT OF	
		LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 6
Snake ab. American Falls	41	55	58
Big Wood	9	65	63
Little Wood	3-5	56	54
Raft	2-7	40	38
Goose Creek	2	33	37
Salmon Falls Creek	9-11	37	44

RESERVOIR STORAGE (1,000 Ac. Ft.)

RESERVOIR	USABLE CAPACITY	MEASURED (First of Month)		
		THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	1943-57 AVERAGE
Jackson Lake	847.0	581.7	142.5	465.5
Palisades	1200.0	1003.3	605.3	--
American Falls	1700.0	1482.4	1575.4	1425.8
Magie	191.5	172.2	34.0	128.2
Oakley	74.4	17.4	23.7	18.5
Salmon Falls	182.6	37.2	30.2	29.6
Little Wood	33.3	21.9	10.3	--
Fish Creek	--	8.8	--	--

SOIL MOISTURE

STATION		PROFILE (Inches)		SOIL MOISTURE (Inches)			
		DEPTH	CAPACITY	DATE	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	2 YEARS AGO
NAME	ELEVATION						
Badger Gulch	6660	36	7.0	2/26	4.8	6.2	--
Bear Creek	7800	72	16.8	2/27	7.6	8.7	8.6
Conner Pass	5700	36	9.8	2/25	7.9	6.0	--
Deadline	6900	36	7.4	2/28	4.8	5.2*	--
Galena	7300	48	8.8	2/28	4.9	--	--
Galena Summit	8795	48	5.8	2/28	1.8	--	--
Garfield Ranger Station	6554	36	5.2	2/25	3.3	4.3	2.8
Howell Canyon	8000	46	11.5	2/25	3.6	--	--
Niggerhead	5450	36	10.1	2/26	6.8	6.6	6.6
Patrick Ranch	5720	36	7.7	2/26	4.6	4.6	4.2
Pole Creek Ranger Station	8330	48	12.7	2/26	6.4	7.6	4.9
Sheep Hollow	6200	32	7.5	3/1	2.3	--	--
Sublett	6000	36	7.0	2/28	2.9	6.4	--
Trapper Creek	5300	36	10.0	2/26	8.2	6.4	--

*Spring Measurements.

SNOW

SNOW COURSE		CURRENT INFORMATION			PAST RECORD	
		DATE OF SURVEY	SNOW DEPTH (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	
NAME	ELEVATION				LAST YEAR	1943-57 AVERAGE
Badger Gulch	6660	2/26	6	2.7	11.9	11.7*
Bear Canyon	8600	2/25	37	9.0	16.0	16.6*
Bear Creek	7800	2/27	39	9.4	20.2	17.1*
Bennett Mountain	6650	2/28	21	7.2	15.8	--
Bostetter Rgr. Sta.	7500	3/2	29	8.1	20.4	17.3*
Boy Scout Camp	7600	3/1	27	7.4	13.6	--
Camas Creeks Divide +	5720	3/3	T	T	8.3	--
Cedar Creek +	7000	2/25	T	T	9.4	10.3*
Clear Creek Meadows	9050	2/27	36	9.7	23.8	--
Couch Summit	7000	3/5	29	8.5	18.9	18.1*

*Estimated 1943-57 average. (+) Aerial observation, water content estimated. (a) Assuming normal meteorological conditions. (b) Actual or estimated 1943-57 average. (c) Observed flow corrected for storage in Jackson Lake and Palisades Reservoir. (d) Observed flow corrected for storage in Jackson Lake, Palisades, Island Park, Grass Lake, Henry's Lake and diversions between Heise and Blackfoot. (e) Combined discharge of Big Wood River and Big Wood Slough. (**) 1949-1960 average.

SNAKE RIVER, BIG WOOD, LITTLE WOOD, RAFT, GOOSE CREEK, SALMON FALLS CREEK WATERSHEDS



SNOW

SNOW COURSE		CURRENT INFORMATION			PAST RECORD	
		DATE OF SURVEY	SNOW DEPTH (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	
NAME	ELEVATION				LAST YEAR	1943-57 AVERAGE
Deadline	6900	2/28	34	9.0	19.8	19.9*
Dollarhide Summit +	8700	2/25	52	17.8	26.1	23.8*
Fox Creek	6800	2/27	7	2.0	8.8	8.4*
Galena	7500	2/28	41	11.4	16.7	17.6*
Galena Summit	8795	2/28	51	14.9	19.2	20.3*
Garfield Rgr. Sta.	6554	2/25	18	5.7	9.6	10.9*
Goat Creek +	8800	2/25	34	10.1	20.7	15.7*
Graham Ranch	6200	2/28	28	9.0	11.4	12.9
Howell Canyon	8000	2/25	33	10.9	21.5	24.3*
Hummingbird Springs +	8945	2/25	38	9.2	24.8	18.3*
Iron Bog	7650	2/25	24	6.4	13.3	--
Iron Mine Creek	6370	2/26	19	6.3	10.4	--
Leadbelt	6800	2/25	13	4.3	9.2	--
Little Camas Flat +	4950	3/3	0	0.0	4.0	--
Lost-Wood Divide +	8750	2/25	51	14.9	18.9	22.9*
Magic Mountain	6700	2/28	24	7.1	15.4	17.1*
Mascot Mine	7900	2/27	30	8.4	13.9	14.2*
Mount Baldy	9000	3/1	40	10.6	18.4	18.2*
Muldoon	6300	2/25	19	5.8	7.5	8.4*
North Fork Meadow +	8150	2/26	21	6.1	12.3	--
One Mile Summit	7330	2/27	10	3.3	7.3	--
Pole Creek Rgr. Sta.	8330	2/26	36	8.7	18.6	16.0*
Porcupine +	8350	2/25	33	9.6	18.4	--
Red Point +	7940	2/25	6	1.5	10.5	--
Seventy-six Creek +	7100	2/25	T	T	10.4	12.8*
Sheep Hollow	6200	3/1	5	1.5	5.1	--
Shoshone Basin	5740	2/28	T	T	2.0	4.7*
Slickrock +	8640	2/26	38	11.1	14.1	--
Soldier Rgr. Sta.	6100	2/28	14	5.2	11.5	12.3*
Stickney Mill	7500	2/25	21	5.7	8.4	8.8
Sublett	6000	2/28	7	2.5	10.0	10.5*
Summit Springs	8500	2/28	6	2.1	8.9	--
Swede Peak	7500	2/25	36	9.4	16.3	--
Telfer Ranch	6000	2/26	8	3.4	8.3	8.1*
Twin Rocks +	8100	2/26	35	9.3	18.4	--
Vienna Mine +	8900	2/25	69	20.1	29.9	31.4*
Vi Pont +	7650	2/28	24	5.8	15.9	--
Wilson Creek +	7500	2/25	12	2.9	10.8	--

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK and SNOW SURVEYS UPPER SNAKE, BLACKFOOT, PORTNEUF, BEAR, MALAD WATERSHEDS IDAHO

as of
MARCH 1, 1963

GENERAL SUMMARY

The water supply outlook in this area is poor excepting on those rivers with adequate storage facilities. The main stem of the Snake and Blackfoot Rivers have carry-over water which can make up for most of the deficiency in forecasted streamflow for 1963.

Snow cover in general varies from 20% of normal on Mink Creek to 75% for the Bear River above Harer. Snow cover is very spotted. The higher elevation snow courses have a proportionately heavier snow pack. The measurements on low and medium elevation courses are among the lowest of record and, in many cases, the lowest of record.

Soil moisture varies from slightly below normal to unusually dry conditions. Soils under the snow pack at higher elevations are the driest. Soil temperatures in general are close to normal.

Reservoir-stored water on the main stem of the Snake is well above normal, and some of the smaller reservoirs increased significantly during January and February. Those small streams in this area without adequate storage facilities face the possibility of water shortages in 1963.

Water in general should be used very conservatively to make possible the greatest amount of carry-over for 1964.

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK expressed as "Poor", "Fair", "Average" or "Excellent" and STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (1,000 Ac. Ft.) ^a

STREAM and/or FORECAST POINT	OUTLOOK	FORECAST THIS YEAR	FORECAST PERIOD	1943-57 AVERAGE	THIS YEAR AS PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Snake River nr. Heise		2900	Apr-Sep	4132	70
nr. Blackfoot		2970	Apr-Jul	4239	70
Blackfoot Reservoir Inflow		80	Apr-Sep	--	--
Portneuf River at Topaz		32	Mar-Sep	--	--
Bear River at Harer		125	Apr-Sep	299	42
Cub River nr. Preston		28	Apr-Sep	52*	54
Montpelier Creek nr. Montpelier		7	Apr-Sep	13.1	53

COMPARISON of SNOW COVER

RIVER BASIN WATERSHED	NO. OF COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEARS SNOW WATER EXPRESSED AS PERCENT OF :	
		LAST YEAR	AVERAGE ^b
Snake ab. Idaho Falls	28	58	63
Blackfoot River	3	38	34
Portneuf River	3	46	43
Mink Creek	3-4	42	20
Cub River	2	24	23
Malad River	2	31	28
Bear ab. Harer	6	62	75
Bear ab. Preston	15	66	67

RESERVOIR STORAGE (1,000 Ac. Ft.)

RESERVOIR	USABLE CAPACITY	MEASURED (First of Month)		
		THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	1943-57 AVERAGE
Jackson Lake	847.0	581.7	142.5	465.5
Palisades	1200.0	1003.3	605.3	--
American Falls	1700.0	1482.4	1575.4	1425.8
Bear Lake	1421.0	761.4	524.3	815.6

Report Prepared by

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE --- SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

P.O. BOX 1247, BOISE, IDAHO

SOIL MOISTURE

STATION		PROFILE (Inches)		SOIL MOISTURE (Inches)			
		DEPTH	CAPACITY	DATE	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	2 YEARS AGO
NAME	ELEVATION						
Emigrant Summit	7350	36	8.2	2/28	3.3	3.4	--
Giveout Pass	7025	50	12.6	2/26	7.3	--	--
Jenson Ranch	6580	45	18.7	2/26	15.7	--	--
Lower Pebble	5800	36	7.6	2/26	5.9	7.3	--
Pebble Creek	6550	48	7.2	2/26	3.1	4.4*	--
* Spring Measurement.							

SNOW

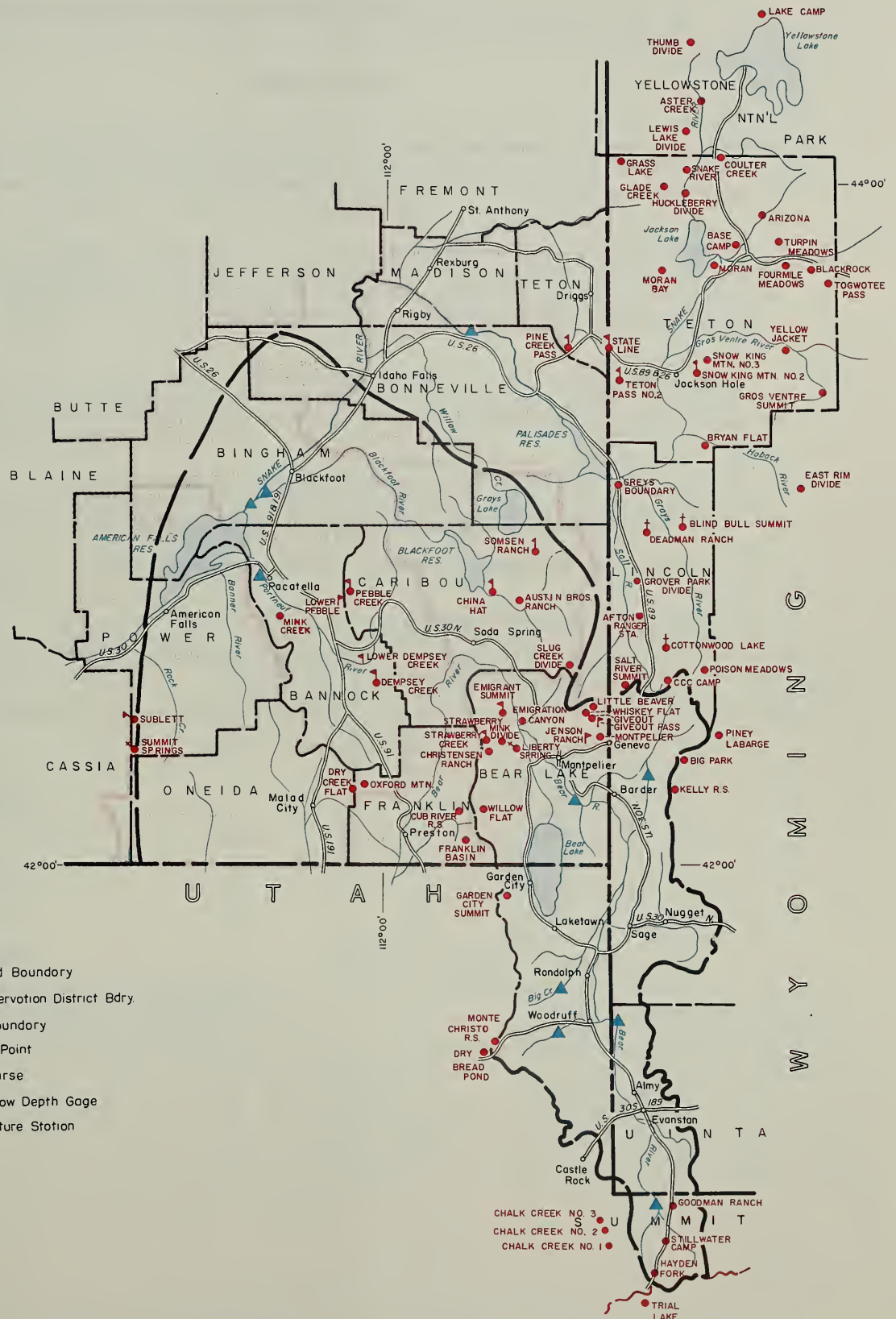
SNOW COURSE		CURRENT INFORMATION			PAST RECORD	
		DATE OF SURVEY	SNOW DEPTH (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	
NAME	ELEVATION				LAST YEAR	1943-57 AVERAGE
Austin Bros. Ranch	6450	2/27	Ice	2.0	7.2	7.1*
China Hat	6300	2/27	T	T	5.2	7.6*
Christensen Ranch	5600	2/28	0	0.0	9.0	9.4*
Cub River Rgr. Sta.	5400	2/28	0	0.0	8.2	8.9*
Dempsey Creek	6280	2/27	15	4.2	9.2	9.8*
Dry Basin +	7900	3/3	57	17.3	--	--
Dry Creek Flat	6350	2/26	0	0.0	6.6	7.2*
Emigrant Summit	7700	2/28	48	14.6	22.8	--
Emigration Canyon	6300	2/28	16	6.7	10.7	--
Giveout	6850	2/26	21	5.9	--	--
Horseshoe Basin +	8000	3/3	65	19.8	24.9	--
Liberty Spring +	8600	3/3	53	16.1	--	--
Little Beaver	7000	2/26	27	8.6	--	--
Mink Creek	6300	2/27	20	6.2	13.4	14.2*
Montpelier Creek	6600	2/26	12	4.1	--	--
Oxford Mountain	6800	2/26	14	4.6	8.2	9.0*
Pebble Creek	6550	2/26	15	5.5	11.7	13.0*
Slug Creek Divide	7225	2/27	38	11.2	17.2	--
Somsen Ranch	7000	2/27	26	6.8	10.6	10.9*
Strawberry Creek	5800	2/28	4	1.3	12.0	11.4*
Strawberry-Mink Divide	6800	2/28	20	6.8	21.2	19.8*
Sublett	6000	2/28	7	2.5	10.0	10.5*
Summit Springs	8500	2/28	6	2.1	8.9	--
Whiskey Flat	6900	2/26	14	4.5	--	--
Willow Flat	6100	2/27	10	5.5	14.6	14.6*

*Estimated 1943-57 average. (o) Forecast made by Gregory L. Pearson, SCS, Salt Lake City, Utah. (+) Aerial observation, water content estimated. (a) Assuming normal meteorological conditions. (b) Actual or estimated 1943-57 average. (c) Observed flow corrected for storage in Jackson Lake and Palisades Reservoir. (d) Observed flow corrected for storage in Jackson Lake, Palisades, Island Park, Grassy Lake, Henry's Lake and diversions between Heise and Blackfoot.

UPPER SNAKE, BLACKFOOT, PORTNEUF, BEAR, MALAD WATERSHEDS

25 0 25 50
SCALE IN MILES

WATERSHED LOCATIONS



LEGEND

- Watershed Boundary
- Soil Conservation District Bdry.
- County Boundary
- ▲ Forecast Point
- Snow Course
- † Aerial Snow Depth Gage
- ▶ Soil Moisture Station



WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK and SNOW SURVEYS

UPPER SNAKE, HENRY'S FORK, TETON, CAMAS - BEAVER CREEK, LITTLE LOST, BIG LOST, UPPER SALMON WATERSHEDS

IDAHO

as of

MARCH 1, 1963

GENERAL SUMMARY

The water supply outlook in this area varies from poor to fair when stored water is considered. The larger rivers, such as the Snake with good storage facilities, can make up for streamflow deficiencies by heavy drafts on the stored water. Those rivers without adequate storage facilities face the possibility of water shortages in 1963.

Snow cover varies from 32% of normal on the Little Lost River to 67% on the Upper Salmon. The low elevation snow has almost entirely melted off and the higher elevations did not receive normal snowfall during February. South slopes are bare to high elevations on all drainages. This condition is expected to reduce streamflow more than is indicated by the snow course measurements.

Soil moisture measurements show relatively dry soils beneath the snow pack even at the highest elevations. Soil temperatures as measured near March 1st were warmer and close to normal. An unusually heavy amount of snow-water will be absorbed by the dry soil during the major snow-melt this spring.

February runoff was high and on several streams set new records. Reservoir-stored water throughout the area is excellent. The reservoirs on the main stem of the Snake River are in a particularly good condition to make up for deficiencies in streamflow.

Water in general should be used very conservatively to make possible the greatest amount of carry-over for 1964.

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK expressed as "Poor", "Fair", "Average" or "Excellent" and STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (1,000 Ac. Ft.) ^a

STREAM and/or FORECAST POINT	OUTLOOK	FORECAST THIS YEAR	FORECAST PERIOD	1943-57 AVERAGE	THIS YEAR AS PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Snake River nr. Heise		2900	Apr-Sep	4132	70
Henry's Fork nr. Ashton		475	Apr-Sep	632	75
nr. Rexburg		980	Apr-Sep	1318	74
Teton River nr. St. Anthony		270	Apr-Sep	425	64
Big Lost River at Howell Ranch		130	Apr-Sep	199	65
		90	Apr-Jun	139	65
Big Lost River nr. Mackay		114	Apr-Sep	172	66
Little Lost River nr. Howe		25	Mar-Sep	37.5**	67
Salmon River nr. Challis		650	Apr-Sep	959	68
		585	Apr-Jul	839	70

COMPARISON of SNOW COVER

RIVER BASIN WATERSHED	NO. OF COURSES AVERAGED	THIS YEARS SNOW WATER EXPRESSED AS PERCENT OF :	
		LAST YEAR	AVERAGE ^b
Snake River ab. Heise	34	56	60
Henry's Fork	3	45	51
Teton River	2-3	47	48
Camas-Beaver Creeks	2	31	35
Little Lost River	5	40	32
Big Lost River	5	62	58
Upper Salmon River	3-7	71	67

RESERVOIR STORAGE (1,000 Ac. Ft.)

RESERVOIR	USABLE CAPACITY	MEASURED (First of Month)		
		THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	1943-57 AVERAGE
Jackson Lake	847.0	581.7	142.5	465.5
Palisades	1200.0	1003.3	605.3	--
American Falls	1700.0	1482.4	1575.4	1425.8
Island Park	127.0	132.3	84.5	116.7
Grassy Lake	15.2	11.8	8.4	13.0
Mackay	44.2	33.9	22.9	33.8

Report Prepared by

M. W. NELSON AND J. ALDEN WILSON

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE --- SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

P. O. BOX 1247, BOISE, IDAHO

SOIL MOISTURE

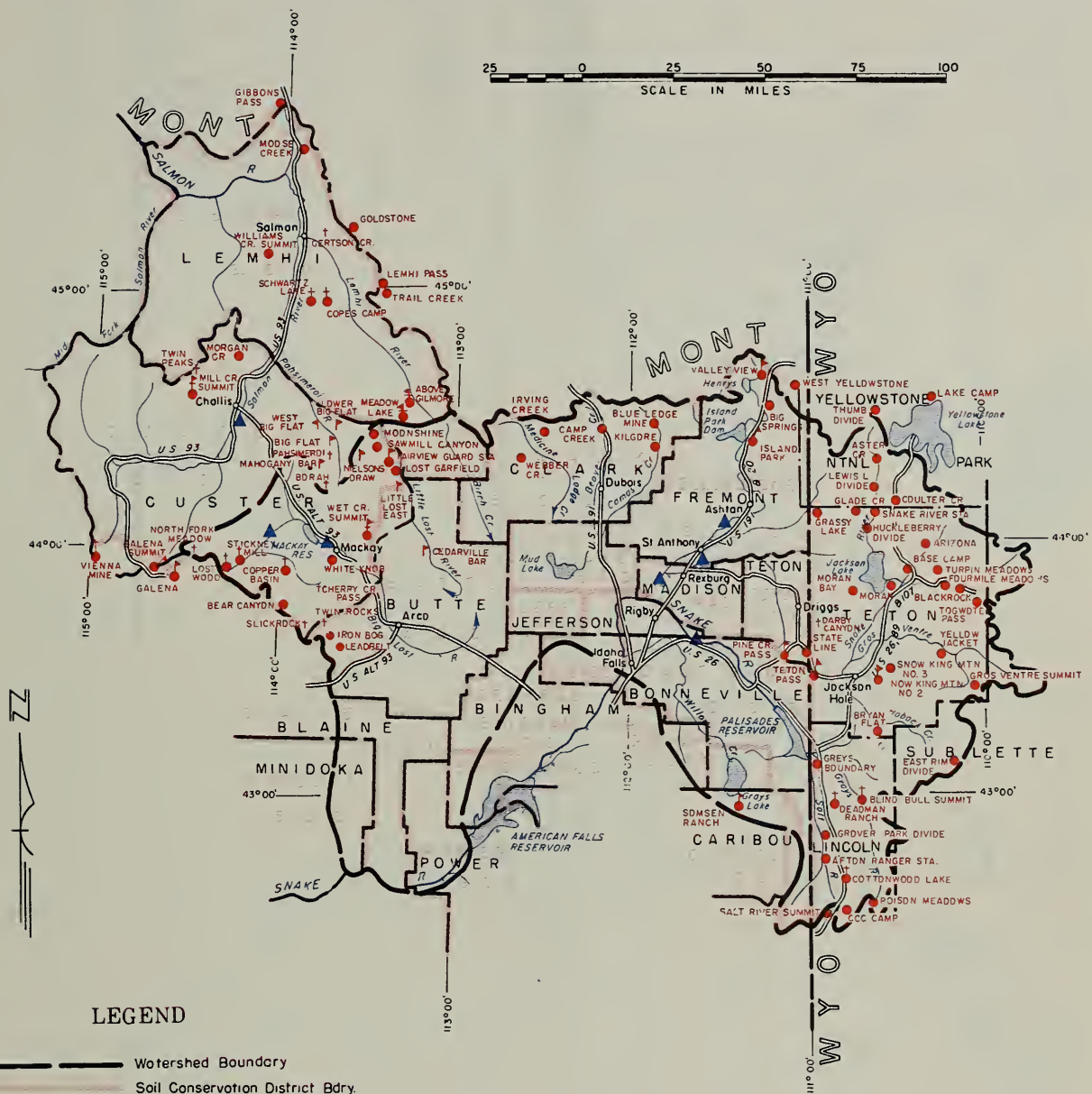
STATION		PROFILE (Inches)		SOIL MOISTURE (Inches)			
		DEPTH	CAPACITY	DATE	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	2 YEARS AGO
NAME	ELEVATION						
Above Gilmore	8200	54	5.4	2/28	2.0	--	--
Bell Mountain Bar	6640	18	3.6	2/26	1.2	1.1	--
Big Flat	7050	18	3.6	2/21	1.1	Frozen	--
Cedarville Bar	5400	18	3.0	2/26	1.0	Frozen	--
Fairview Guard Station	5850	42	7.6	2/26	4.4	3.9	--
Island Park	6315	42	9.9	2/27	3.2	--	--
Meadow Lake	9100	48	4.4	2/28	1.7	--	--
Mill Creek Summit	8870	48	8.4	3/3	2.7	--	--
Nielson's Draw	6400	18	3.3	2/26	1.2	1.0	--
Pine Creek Pass	6750	48	13.3	2/25	4.1	--	--
State Line	6400	48	14.8	2/25	4.7	--	--
Teton Pass	8500	48	10.5	2/25	6.9	--	--
Valley View	6500	48	13.3	2/27	4.2	--	--
West Big Flat	6550	18	3.2	2/21	1.0	Frozen	--

SNOW

SNOW COURSE		CURRENT INFORMATION			PAST RECORD	
		DATE OF SURVEY	SNOW DEPTH (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	
NAME	ELEVATION				LAST YEAR	1943-57 AVERAGE
Above Gilmore	8200	2/28	25	6.2	8.2	--
Bear Canyon	8600	2/25	37	9.0	16.0	16.6*
Black Canyon	7850	2/26	56	16.2	--	--
Big Springs	6500	2/27	35	9.2	22.8	20.4
Camp Creek	6800	2/26	13	3.0	9.2	9.2
Cherry Creek Pass +	8900	2/26	7	1.6	--	--
Copes Camp	7500	3/1	26	5.0	7.2	--
Copper Basin	8000	2/25	14	4.0	7.3	9.2
Darby Canyon + Wyo.	8250	2/25	38	11.7	20.3	--
Fairview Guard Sta.	6850	2/26	6	1.2	4.2	5.6*
Galena	7500	2/28	41	11.4	16.7	17.6*
Galena Summit	8795	2/28	51	14.9	19.2	20.3*
Gertson Creek +	8050	3/2	10	2.0	--	--
Iron Bog	7650	2/25	24	6.4	13.3	--
Irving Creek	7035	2/25	10	1.9	5.0	--
Island Park	6315	2/27	31	7.8	17.6	15.8
Kilgore	6200	2/27	15	3.6	12.1	9.5
Latham Springs	7650	2/26	55	15.6	--	--
Leadbelt	6800	2/25	13	4.3	9.2	--
Lost-Garfield	6700	2/26	T	T	3.0	4.9*
Lost-Wood Divide +	8750	2/25	51	14.9	18.9	22.9*
Lucky Dog	6900	2/26	40	12.2	--	--
Meadow Lake	9100	2/28	39	10.8	16.3	--
Mill Creek Summit	8870	3/3	52	13.6	19.0	--
Moonshine	7250	2/27	24	5.0	9.2	11.5*
Moose Creek	6200	2/27	36	8.0	12.6	-16.1
Morgan Creek Summit	7580	2/27	34	8.4	--	--
North Fork Meadow +	8150	2/26	21	6.1	12.3	--
Old Road	7250	2/26	46	14.8	--	--
Pine Creek Pass	6750	2/25	29	7.7	16.2	--
Poacher's Cabin	8000	2/26	57	17.8	--	--
Sawmill Canyon	7000	2/27	16	3.2	7.9	9.3*
Schwartz Lake	8500	3/1	35	8.4	10.9	--
Slickrock +	8640	2/26	38	11.1	14.1	--
Somsen Ranch	7000	2/27	26	6.8	10.6	10.9*
State Line	6400	2/25	21	5.9	14.0	13.8
Stickney Mill	7500	2/25	21	5.7	8.4	8.8
Teton Pass Wyo.	8500	2/25	52	16.0	32.9	32.1*
Twin Peaks +	9190	3/1	45	11.8	--	--
Twin Rocks +	8100	2/26	35	9.3	18.4	--
Valley View	6500	2/27	32	8.4	15.8	13.4*

*Estimated 1943-57 average. (+) Aerial observation, water content estimated. (a) Assuming normal meteorological conditions. (b) Actual or estimated 1943-57 average. (c) Observed flow corrected for storage in Jackson Lake and Palisades Reservoir. (d) Observed flow corrected for storage in Island Park Reservoir and Henry's Lake. (e) Observed flow corrected for storage in Island Park Reservoir, Henry's Lake, Grassy Lake, and diversions between Ashton and Rexburg. (f) Observed flow corrected for storage in Mackay Reservoir and diversion in Sharp Ditch. (**) 1944-1950 average.

UPPER SNAKE, HENRY'S FORK, TETON, CAMAS - BEAVER CREEK, LITTLE LOST, BIG LOST, UPPER SALMON WATERSHEDS



LEGEND

- Watershed Boundary
- Soil Conservation District Bdry.
- County Boundary
- ▲ Forecast Point
- Snow Course
- † Aerial Snow Depth Gage
- ▶ Soil Moisture Station



SNOW

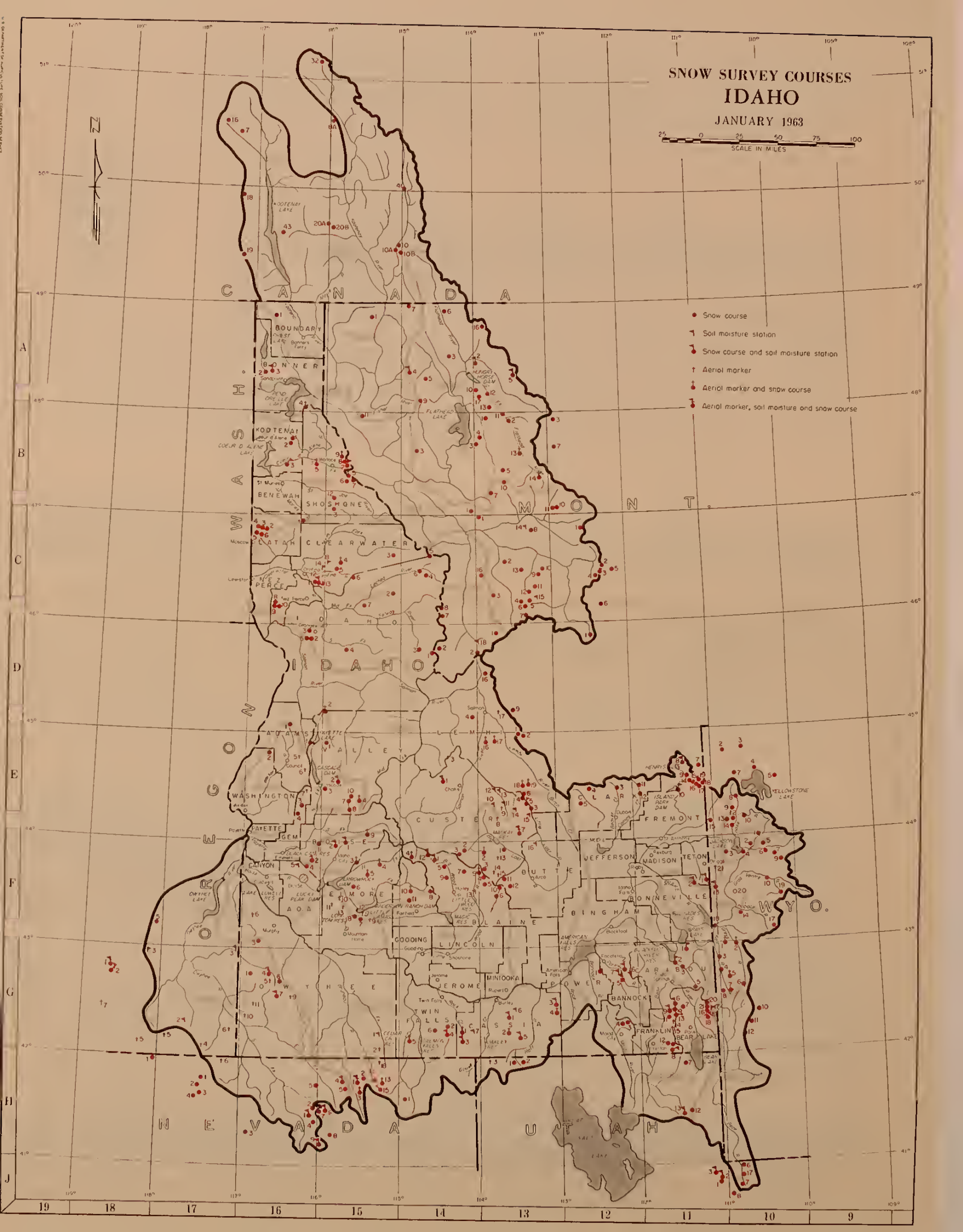
SNOW COURSE		CURRENT INFORMATION			PAST RECORD	
		DATE OF SURVEY	SNOW DEPTH (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	WATER CONTENT (Inches)	
NAME	ELEVATION				LAST YEAR	1943-57 AVERAGE
Vienna Mine +	8900	2/25	69	20.1	29.9	31.4*
Webber Creek	6700	2/25	8	1.1	4.5	--
West Yellowstone	6700	2/28	23	4.9	15.0	11.3
Wet Creek Summit	8175	2/26	19	4.2	9.4	10.4*
White Knob	7700	2/28	18	4.1	10.3	7.9
Williams Creek Summit	7800	3/2	34	7.9	11.6	12.0*

SNOW SURVEY COURSES IDAHO

JANUARY 1963

25 0 25 50 75 100
SCALE IN MILES

- Snow course
- 1 Soil moisture station
- 1 Snow course and soil moisture station
- † Aerial marker
- † Aerial marker and snow course
- 1 Aerial marker, soil moisture and snow course



Agencies Assisting with Snow Surveys, etc.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Canada:

Department of Lands, Forests, and
Water Resources, British Columbia
Department of Resources and Development,
Water Resources Division

States:

Idaho State Reclamation Engineer
and Corps of State Watermasters
State of Idaho Department of Fish and
Game
University of Idaho
Idaho State College
Montana Agricultural Experiment Station
Montana State Water Conservation Board
Nevada Cooperative Snow Surveys
Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station
Oregon State Engineer and Corps of
State Watermasters
Utah Cooperative Snow Surveys
Wyoming Cooperative Snow Surveys

Federal:

U. S. Army Engineers

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Agricultural Research Service

U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

U. S. Department of the Interior
Bonneville Power Administration
Bureau of Reclamation
Fish and Wildlife Service
Geological Survey
Indian Service
National Park Service
Bureau of Land Management

PUBLIC UTILITIES

The Montana Power Company
Washington Water Power Company
Idaho Power Company
Utah Power and Light Company

ORGANIZED PUBLIC AGENCIES

Big Lost River Irrigation District
Boise Project Board of Control
Little Wood River Irrigation District
Jordan Valley Irrigation District
Salmon Falls Creek Irrigation Company
Twin Falls Soil Conservation District
Twin Lakes Irrigation Company
Big Wood Irrigation Company
Owyhee Project - North & South Board of Control

PRIVATE CORPORATIONS

Amalgamated Sugar Company

*Other organizations and individuals furnish valuable information for
snow survey reports. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.*

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